

**Town of Northfield
Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes August 8, 2016
Municipal Building 6:00 p.m.**

Attendees: Sally Davidson, Michele Langley, Heidi Passalacqua, Chris Cummings,

Absent: Jessica Amell, Bruce Wright, Ken Goslant, Scott Amell , Sarah Capron (community member)

- I. **Call to order:** 6:10 p.m.
- II. **Review and approval of minutes** July 18, 2016. The meeting minutes discussion. The minutes need to reflect that Bill Langley's labor is donated and expertise will be donated, however the materials are not. Also we will be asking for a volunteer "building day" as well as donations. Approved with changes.
- III. **Public participation unscheduled:**
 - a. **Sara Capron, community member, came to discuss the Saturday August 20th volunteer day for Northfield area baseball program (NABA);** she will also be there for scouts. She was also coming with a comment/observation around how sports and recreation are communicated in this town. When she first moved here she found it very difficult to find out information about sports and how to get her children signed up for things. The town was not helpful as there is NO where she could find information. She tried the school but at the time unless the kids were actually in the school that was not helpful either. Eventually she found people who knew about youth sports and by that time she had signed up her kids for soccer in Williamstown. Now she is learning about organizations through word of mouth, and looking around, but it is her thought especially because other towns she has lived in there is a site that links through the town's recreation that somehow this can be streamlined. Discussion about ages and sports and things to do in Northfield being disconnected. A suggestion she made is to have all sports be linked through town to school so someone going to town site could click on and see for instance that there are in fact sports organizations and contact information, go to that site and see. Similarly about the pool. Michele offered to ask Ken if he could use our website (the towns) for linking together. Sara wants to use this August 20th as a stepping stone to building on sports.
- IV. **Old business: Reports:**
 - a. **Picnic Tables:** plaques are ordered from John Dewey. Don't know about purchase of extra table. We will wait to see who made table from Legion and try to stay local to purchase. If local is within our price range then we do asap. If not we move forward with something else outside for similar price. The broken leg on the picnic table in the falls is now fixed, it will need to be stained.

- b. **Youth Activity and Demonstration Day@ Memorial Park August 20th:** timing for activity portion: 1pm-5. BBQ would be at 5 p.m. Sally found out that the church is doing an event but did cancel the barbeque they were planning that day. Meals will be packaged to go \$10.00 per meal. Scott reported NABA, youth golf and NAHA, Dynamos (have to give them time of event), Scouts, (possibly girls scouts), and softball so far for groups. Need to find containers (Tim Martin did not have enough). Sally will take care of rolls, and find out about containers and napkins. Heidi will make potato Salad. Michele will do the watermelon. Need extra tables for some groups possibly will have Scott set some aside We will pre sell tickets as well as sell them there and do no more than 100 dinners.
- c. **Horseshoe Pits:** The falls pit is now complete. There may need to be a support or the sand in the pit will take care of pit. Sally brought pictures from Falls to show the need for some maintenance of the project of the monument, the fencing around the fields, trees since as they grow in no one wants to seem to cut the grass
- d. **Memorial Park restroom:** Michele had a drawing of restrooms designed. Jeff said about 9,000 in the CIP fund for the Parks. When they discussed the water and sewer line Jeff stated that last year when the lines were dug for the water and Sewer line up King street the sewer did NOT get laid to where the recreation committee had asked for it to be done. ONLY the water line had been done. Jeff and Pat Demasi went up and looked again at our spot and determined they could do this but would require digging up the parking lot again. (This is why we had gone to select board last year and asked for last year and told it would get done. We are not sure why this did not get done). Scott has the estimate from the company, we need a written estimate to get approved by the selectmen. Would like to have a plan by end of this week. Michele will place an ad on front porch forum asking for services and donations. Our goal is to have this completed by August 20 to celebrate.

V. New business:

- a. **There will be a new softball league being formed for spring 2017.** Northfield will have little league softball for 8-12 year old girls in each division. 4 divisions (Northfield, Northfield Falls, Williamstown and Roxbury). Charter still to be filled out. Chris Cummings is working with the school to fill out forms, establish a charter, etc. He will be filling out the paperwork.
- b. **Damage: dugout to falls dugout being repaired.** Discussion about when something happens to a recreation field or item of recreation, members should notify the town manager and vice versa. Sally mentioned she would bring that to the Select Board. In the falls the bleachers are in need of repair.

VI. Next meeting: Monday September 12, 2016 6pm

VII. Adjournment